Revival of Sick Public Sector Drug Companies

3041. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1886 given in Rajya Sabha on the 16th December, 1993 and state:

(a) what are the name of the public sector drug companies which have applied to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) for revival after 1991;

(b) what are the details of the revival package submitted by each and at what stage the proposals stand at present;

(c) why are the public sector companies not being privatised straightway instead of wasting public money further; and

(d) what action plan has been drawn by the Ministry in respect of each of the public sector undertakings and by when each of them would be privatised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) Six public sector underatkings in the Pharmaceutical Industry Sector, namely Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Bengal Immunity, Limited, Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Bengal Immunistreet Pharmaceuticals Limited, Uttar Pradesh Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited and Orissa Drugs and Chemicals Limited have made the reference in the prescribed manner to the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) after 1991. The revival package for Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd. has been approved by the BIFR. The other five cases are at various stages of preparation/consideration. The revival packages broadly aim at higher production/sales, better marketing strategy, reduction in the fixed cost, reduction in excess manpower, cooperation and sacrifices from employees, support and assistance from bankers etc The Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 (SICA) provides, inter alia, that all options would be considered for full utilisation of the productive industrial assets. The revival or otherwise of these sick companies will depend upon the orders of the BIFR, a statutory authority set up under the law.

Manufacturers forcing farmers to buy urea

3042. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the manufacturers of urea have been forcing farmers to buy phosphatic and complex fertilisers alongwith urea; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken to retrain the manufacturers from doing so?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) No specific instance of the manufacturers of Urea, forcing farmers to buy phosphatic and complex fertilisers has come to the notice of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Absence of safety measures at Insecticide Factory, Vidisha

3043. SHRI GAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the insecticides factories located at Vidisha (M.P.) are not having even the basic safety measures;

(b) whether it is also a fact that four factories, out of eight have been declared dangerous and three out of these four dangerous factories are located just two hundred yards away from schools, having strength of five thousand childrens;

(c) whether it is a fact that the factories declared dangerous are using Methyl